

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An annular member for a braking device utilizing a multiple disk brake, the annular member comprising: a first portion, a second portion and a third portion, the first portion extending radially outside the third portion and joined thereto by the second portion having an orthogonal relationship to the first portion and the third portion, the first portion having an internal surface providing attachment for disks in the multiple disk brake, the third portion having an inner surface provided with teeth and forming a ring gear configured to form part of a planetary gear transmission, the third portion further having an outer surface having at least one race formed therein for alignment with ~~at least~~ an opposing race in an inner face of an annular part overlapping at least a portion of the outer surface to provide a bearing unit comprising the outer surface and the annular part to retain balls between the at least one race and ~~the at least an its~~ opposing race, wherein the first portion is adapted for fixed attachment to an axle case, the third portion ~~adapted for secure connection~~ having integrated therein a fourth portion for mounting to a hub from which the annular part extends to overlap the at least a portion of the outer surface, the annular member, connected firmly to the axle case, providing a unitary assembly for directly connecting having the fourth portion for mounting to the hub to provide connection of the hub to the axle case.

2. (Original) The annular member as recited in claim 1, wherein the first portion has a ring shape.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The annular member as recited in claim 2, wherein the second portion projects inward in the radial direction from the first portion.

5. (Original) The annular member as recited in claim 1, wherein the first portion comprises guide surfaces for guidance in the axial direction of at least one first brake disk when the braking device is activated.

6. (Original) The annular member as recited in claim 5, wherein the guide surfaces consist of a number of parallel ridges which extend at least partially in the axial direction.

7. (Original) The annular member as recited in claim 1, wherein the first portion and the third portion are arranged at different distances in the radial direction of the annular member.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The annular member as recited in claim 1, wherein the second portion has a pressure surface formed at one end of the ring gear in the axial direction of the annular member.

11 - 23. (Cancelled)